

VIETNAM

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1987

Organisation submitting the report

- Ministry of Culture & Information
Dept of Conservation & Museology
51-53 NGO QUYEN
Hanoi
Vietnam

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- The compilation of national and provincial inventories is an ongoing process.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- 8 sites revised in 1997
- Local authorities & populations attended consultation meetings as part of the selection process.

Nominations and the nomination process

- 1992 3 nominations (deferred)
 - (a) Huong Son
 - (b) Cuc Phong National Park
 - (c) Hoa Lu
- 1993 1 nomination (inscribed)
 - (a) Complex of Hué Monuments
- 1994 1 nomination (inscribed)
 - (a) Ha Long Bay (extended 2000)
- 1998 1 nomination (deferred)
 - (a) Phong Nha Cave
- 1999 2 nominations (inscribed)
 - (a) Hoi An Ancient Town
 - (b) My Son Sanctuary
- 2000 1 nomination (inscribed)
 - (a) Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park
- The process involves the Ministries of Culture & Information, Agriculture & Urban Development, and Science, Technology & Environment, Dept of Tourism, National Centre of Human Science, IUCN, FFI, WWF, National Commission for UNESCO, local authorities and populations.
- The process is useful to improve documentation and strengthen links between the Ministries and the community.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- Since 1994, a National Programme for Safeguarding the National Cultural Heritage has been evolving.
- A new Law on Cultural Heritage was adopted in June 2001.
- There is a need to strengthen provincial management, and local co-operation with the education and NGO sectors.
- Improvement in inter-ministerial co-operation is considered desirable.

Participation of local communities

- Action is taken to encourage the participation of local communities including indigenous peoples, women and youth.

Tourism Development

- WH Sites “figure as a priority for tourism development in the National Platform for Socio-economic Development of Vietnam.”
- “Although tourism controls have been established, due to lax enforcement, sites are extremely vulnerable to tourism pressure.”
- Economic benefits are retained locally and there is increasing understanding of heritage values. Vandalism and uncontrolled tourism facilities are having a negative impact.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- There is an annual budget for World Heritage sites as part of the regular budget for culture and environment. No figures supplied.

Professional

- Approx. 2,000 staff are employed nationally. The number is inadequate, and they do not have sufficient influence on policy making.
- Heritage conservation is being integrated into higher education as part of the National Program on Education & Training.
- The need is identified for postgraduate courses and qualifications.
- Hanoi Cultural University and Canberra University, Australia, have established a Regional Training Centre in Hanoi.

New and improved services

- Heritage properties at Hue, Ha Long Bay, Hoi An, My Son and Quang Nam all have dedicated management departments.
- The Law on Cultural Heritage, 2001, establishes a National Heritage Council under the Prime Minister, and a Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture & Information.

Issues to be addressed

- The need for specialist training for staff, and postgraduate education in heritage management.

I.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- Bi-lateral projects are mentioned with Japan, France, Poland, Germany, Italy, China, Australia, Thailand, UNDP and IUCN.

- * International Assistance from the WHF as follows:

1992	\$15,000	Preparatory, Tentative List (cultural)
1994	\$20,000	Technical, Hue
1995	\$108,000	Technical, Hue
1996	\$12,500	Technical, Hue
1997	\$24,250	Training, Ha Long Bay
	\$35,000	Technical, Hue
1998	\$14,892	Preparatory, Hoi An nomination
	\$50,000	Emergency, Hue
	\$8,857	Technical, Ha Long Bay
1999	\$5,000	Promotional, Hue
	\$16,811	Technical, Hue
	\$50,000	Emergency, Hue
2000	\$5,000	Promotional, WH Education Kit
	\$14,508	Technical, Ha Long Bay
2001	\$5,000	Promotional, Convention
	\$9,800	Technical, Hue
	\$28,290	Technical, Hoi An
2002-2004	\$812,470	UNESCO/Italian Funds-in-Trust project for the safeguarding of My Son World Heritage.

- * Extra-budgetary funds mobilised by the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage include:

1981-01	\$23,411	Conservation, preservation: Complex of Hue monuments (Voluntary contributions from the International Safeguarding Campaign)
1992-93	\$113,000	Conservation, preservation: Complex of Hue monuments (Japan)

I.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Public awareness is raised through campaigns in the media.
- The UNESCO project *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion* has been adopted.

I.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- "Cultural and natural heritage preservation, especially where it concerns heritage in everyday use, cannot work without popular participation at local, regional and national level. The present challenge is to keep up this co-operation."

- The International Campaign for Safeguarding Hue "immensely helped Vietnam to attract more international co-operation, with the influx of specialists, equipment and financial resources."
- "Cultural development strategies and the legal and regulatory frameworks for historic conservation need to be more specific and complete. There are needs for Master Development Plans for certain heritage sites, and to sustain plans and site conservation efforts, a funding mechanism, and methods for documenting the economic benefits of investment in cultural activities."
- The support of the WH Fund may be sought for: revising the Tentative List, preparing 4 nominations, training, conservation at Hue, My Son and Hoi An, and the eco-museum at Ha Long Bay.